

City of Johns Creek Recreation & Parks Strategic Plan





Objective of the Study

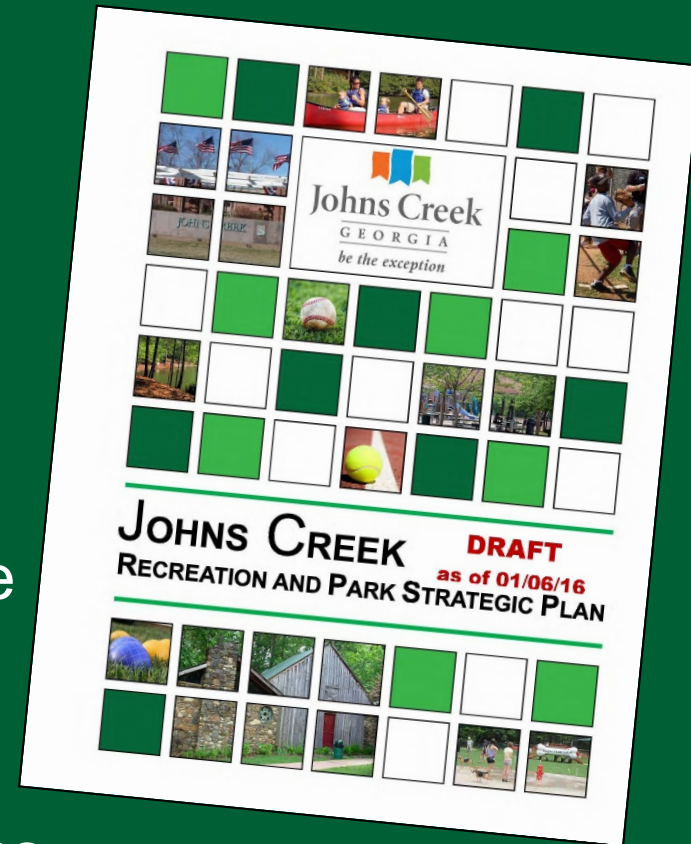
To identify and prioritize the next ten years of investments in recreation and park amenities

Process: understanding the park system and involving the community in a dynamic planning process.

Orientation to the Draft Plan

Executive Summary

1. Background
2. Community Involvement
3. Community Profile
4. Inventory & Assessment
5. Needs Assessment
6. Operations & Maintenance
7. Funding
8. Full Recommendations
9. Costs of Recommendations
10. Recommended Implementation
11. Appendix





Community Consensus for:

- Acquire additional park land
- Build new facilities for tournament sports
- Provide a broader range of recreational programs to serve all age groups
- Create loop trails and a greenway system
- Increase trail linkages from existing parks
- Improve existing parks
- Improve maintenance practices

Congratulations on Implementation!

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution Thursday, Nov. 19, 2015

B | METRO

News: metronews@ajc.com | Delivery: ajc.com/customer-care or 404-522-4141

State begins investigation into two charities, B2

JOHNS CREEK

Johns Creek to expand parklands

Council votes to buy Cauley Creek plant, surrounding land for \$20.3M.

By David Wickert
dwickert@ajc.com

Johns Creek embarked on a major expansion of its park system this week by voting to purchase 133 acres along the Chattahoochee River.

The City Council voted unanimously after midnight Monday to buy the Cauley

Creek wastewater treatment plant and surrounding land for \$20.3 million. Johns Creek officials say the property will be used as a park, expanding the city's existing system by two-thirds.

Meanwhile, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners on Wednesday postponed a decision on whether to buy

the treatment plant — now apparently from Johns Creek. The plant's private owner has spent months trying to convince Fulton officials to buy and reopen it, though an independent consultant says that would be costly and unnecessary.

The property off Bell Road is adjacent to the Rogers Bridge Trail. It includes nearly 2,000 feet of river access.

Johns Creek currently has

Johns Creek continued on B3



Fulton commissioners delayed approval of a plan that does include buying and reopening the Cauley Creek wastewater treatment plant, which was designed to look like a dairy farm. BOB ANDERSON

JOHNS CREEK

City approves plans for park purchase

Johns Creek officials are working to bulk up the city's park system.

The city council Monday night approved plans for purchase of an approximately 20-acre tract adjacent to Medlock Bridge Road and stretching from Johns Creek Parkway to East Johns Crossing.

The city said the purchase price is just short of \$140,000 per acre.

A city spokesman said the land buy would increase total city parkland to 360 acres and would provide recreational space in the north central park of the city, which is identified as underserved in the Recreation

- Prudent Advance Acquisition in Action!
- 133-acre acquisition announced in Nov.
- 20-acres acquisition announced in Jan.



Congratulations on Implementation!

- Parks without Borders
 - Continued and expanded for 2016
- Staffing Shifts (in FY2016 Budget)
 - Retitled Park Place Coordinator and shifted to Rec and Parks Division
 - Additional part time Recreation Leader (to facilitate coverage of Shakerag)
 - Established Recreation Leader II
- Trust for Public Land Partnership



Continued Implementation: Two Implementation Pathways

- Current Investment Level
 - Announced Acquisitions plus:
 - \$10M over 10 Year Planning Period
 - Funded through General Fund
- Accelerated Investment Level
 - Current Investment Level plus:
 - \$2M more from Reserves
 - \$50-\$60M General Obligation Bonds



10 Year View

(at Current Investment Level)

- Improvements to Existing Parks
 - Autrey Mill, Newtown, Ocee, and Shakerag
- New Pocket Park Development:
 - Morton, State Bridge, and Bell-Boles
- Unfunded Plan Aspects:
 - Development of recent Land Acquisitions, other Land Acquisition, Indoor Facilities, and Programming



10 Year View

(at Accelerated Investment Level)

- Existing Park Improvements
- New Park Development
- Development of Acquired Land
- Additional Land Acquisition
- New Indoor Recreation Center
- Unfunded Plan Aspects:
 - Other new indoor facilities and some of the other proposed acquisitions



Community Willingness to Pay *(Accelerated Level of Investment)*

- Survey: 77% willing to contribute more money each month towards parks
 - \$6-\$10 per household, per month (most common response)
 - 25% willing to give more than \$10/month
- \$60M bond issuance would average \$6.79 per household, per month
- Millage rate increase of 0.4478 mills



Priority Projects

(Accelerated Level of Investment)

- \$2M Additional Use of Reserves:
 - Fund development of previously acquired pocket parks (Morton, State Bridge, Bell-Boles)
- \$60M General Obligation Bonds
 - \$25M Additional Land Acquisition
 - \$16.2M Development: Tournament Park/Large Community Park
 - \$5M Development: Town Green Park
 - \$6M Indoor Rec. Center Development
 - 15% contingency



Other Priority Next Steps *(Accelerated Level of Investment)*

- Engage Community re: Bonds
 - Survey community
- Programming and Staffing
 - Direct mail of annual program guide
 - Update rental rates and event fees
 - Transition Rec. and Parks to stand-alone Department (not division of PW)
 - Add another Rec. Coordinator to manage programs or partnerships for additional programs to meet needs of more age groups and demographics



Questions and Discussion *(of Implementation Pathways)*

- Current Investment Level
 - Announced Acquisitions plus:
 - \$10M over 10 Year Planning Period
 - Funded through General Fund
- Accelerated Investment Level
 - Current Investment Level plus:
 - \$2M more from Reserves
 - \$50-\$60M General Obligation Bonds
- or Alternative Level set by Council